

## Katherine Hildebrandt Karraker, Ph.D.

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Dr. Karraker received her Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from the University of Colorado in 1973. She then attended Michigan State University, receiving a Master of Arts degree in 1976 and a Ph.D. in 1978, both in developmental psychology. She was an Assistant Professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo from 1978 to 1985. She joined the faculty at West Virginia University as an Assistant Professor in 1985 and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in 1987 and was promoted to the rank of Professor in 2004. Within the Department of Psychology, she served as Director of Undergraduate Training from 1989 to 2002, and has served as Director of Graduate Training since 1992. She also has served as Coordinator of the Life-Span Developmental Doctoral Program from 2001 to 2004. She began a term as Associate Chair in 2004.

Dr. Karraker's primary research interest is infant social relations. She and her students have studied such topics as the effects of infant characteristics (such as physical attractiveness, gender, prematurity, and temperament) on adults, parent-infant relations, infant assessment, parenting self-efficacy, stress and coping in infancy, and maternal sleep deprivation. She teaches graduate and undergraduate courses on infant development, as well as courses designed to assist students in their professional development. These latter courses have included coordinating field placements and teaching a course on psychology as a profession for undergraduate students and seminars on teaching undergraduate psychology, adapting to graduate school, and post-graduate professional issues for graduate students.

[Dr. Karraker's vita](#)